

Softball Rules Policies and Procedures

Co-Ed:

A. The NFHS Official Rulebook will be followed for the Official playing rules of this league with the following exceptions and/or additions.

1. Official Lineup: A full team consists of ten (10) players. No team shall be permitted to start a game with less than eight (8) players, without forfeiting that game.

Teams must alternate men and women in batting order, but players may play at any defensive position. There will be an equal number of men and women in defensive positions at all times. In case of an odd number of players, there must be more women than men.

It is required that managers provide first and last names when line-ups are given to the scorekeeper prior to each game.

2. Ball/Strike Rule: The plate and mat are considered strike area. Any combination of two (2) strikes is an out, three (3) balls is a walk. **If a male batter is walked, they will be awarded two bases.**
3. Game Length: An official game will be seven (7) innings or 60 minutes. No new inning may begin after 55 minutes. A 12-run rule will be in effect after the 4 ½ innings.
4. Base Runners: Base runners may advance only on a batted ball and shall be out if they lead off before the ball is hit. **Sliding is permitted, but not required.**

A line will be drawn ¾ of the distance from third base toward home plate. Once a runner has crossed that line, the runner shall be committed to running home.

5. Plays at Home Plate: All plays at home plate shall be a force out. The runner does not have to be tagged for the out. The catcher will have an extension at home plate, so they should not block the base runner coming into home plate.
6. Balls and Bats: Teams must use the 12" ball and use regular length bats. Men may not use a bat longer than 28" in length and no heavier than 21 ounces. If detected, the batter is automatically out.

7. Legal Pitch: The arch limitations shall be no more than 12 feet from the ground. Minimum arc must clear the pitchers head.
8. An arc approximately 120 feet from the pitchers mound will be painted/mowed in the outfield. Outfielders are not allowed in front of this arc until the ball has been hit. To clarify, each team can have a maximum of five infielders. The remaining defensive players must be positioned in outfield beyond the arc. Penalty for being in front of line: Batter will automatically be safe at first, the ball will be called dead and all runners on base will advance one base.

B. Player Eligibility: Eligibility will be the same as other Adult Softball Leagues with the following exceptions:

1. Participants may play in city-sponsored leagues other than the Co-Ed League.
2. Players must have reached their eighteenth birthday (18). High school students can start playing at the beginning of the season.
3. All players should have proof of identification (drivers license, etc.) at games in case they are asked to prove eligibility by the League Supervisor.

C. All other rules explained in information for Adult Softball Leagues will be enforced for the Co-Ed League if not already mentioned here.

Revised: April 26, 2010